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A M E R I C A N

MORAL & SENTIMENTAL MAGAZINE.

AUGUST 14, 1797.

A Narrative of the most remarkable occurrences, and strange vicissitudes, in the life of James Albert Ukawsaw Gronniosaw, an African Prince, as related by himself.

[Continued from page 69.]

IT is possible the circumstance I am going to relate, will not gain credit with many; but this I know, that the joy and comfort it conveyed to me, cannot be expressed, and only conceived by those who have experienced the like.

I was one day in a most delightful frame of mind, my heart so overflowed with love and gratitude to the author of all my comforts—I was so drawn out of myself, and so filled and awed by the presence of God, that I saw (or thought I saw) light inexpressible dart down from heaven upon me, and shone around me for the space of a minute. I continued on my knees, and joy unspeakable took possession of my soul. The peace and serenity which filled my mind after this, was very wonderful, and cannot be told, I would not have changed while situations or been any one but myself for the world. I blessed God for my poverty, that I had no worldly riches or whose grandeur to draw my heart from Him. I wished at that time Mr.

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if it had been possible for me, to have continued on that spot for ever. I felt an unwillingness in myself to have any thing more to do with the world or to mix with society again. I seemed to possess a full assurance that my sins were forgiven me. I went home all my way rejoicing, and this text came full upon my mind, “*And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts that they shall not depart from me.*” The first opportunity that presented itself, I went to my old school-master, and made known to him the happy state of my soul, who joined with me in praise to God for his mercy to me the vilest of sinners. I was now perfectly easy, and had hardly a wish to make beyond what I possessed, when my temporal comforts were all blasted by the death of Mr. Freelandhouse, who was taken from this world rather suddenly, he had but a short illness, and died of a fever. I held his hand in mine when he departed; he told me he had given me my freedom, I was at liberty to go where I would. He added that he had always prayed for me, and hoped I should be kept unto the end. My master left me by his will, ten pounds and my freedom.

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I found that if he had lived, it was his intention to take me with him to Holland, as he had often mentioned me to some friends of his there, that were desirous to see me: but chose to continue with my mistress, who was as good to me as if she had been my own mother.

SE. The loss of Mr. Freelandhouse distressed me greatly, but I was rendered still more unhappy by the clouded and perplexed situation of my mind; the great enemy of my soul being ready to torment me, would present my own misery to me in such striking light, and distress me with doubts, fears, and such a deep sense of my own unworthiness, that after all the comfort and encouragement I had received, I was often tempted to believe I should be cast away at last. The more I saw of the beauty and glory of God, the more I was humbled

bled under a sense of my own vileness. I often repaired to my old place of prayer, and I seldom came away without consolation. One day this Scripture was applied to my mind, "*And ye are compleat in Him, which is the head of all principalities and powers.*" The Lord was pleased to comfort me by the application of many gracious promises at times when I was ready to sink under my trouble. *Wherefore he is also able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified.*

My kind indulgent mistress lived but two years after my master. Her death was a great affliction to me. She left five sons all gracious young men, and ministers of the gospel. I continued with them all one after another, till they died; they lived but four years after their parents, when it pleased God to take them to himself. I was now quite destitute, without a friend in the world; but I who had so often experienced the goodness of God, trusted in him to do what he pleased with me. In this helpless condition I went into the wood to prayer as usual; and though the snow was a considerable height, I was not sensible of cold, or any other inconveniency. At times indeed, when I saw the world frowning round me, I was tempted to think the Lord had forsaken me; I found great relief from the contemplation of these words in Isaiah xlix. 16. *Behold I have engraven thee on the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.* And very many comfortable promises were sweetly applied to me. The 69th psalm and 34th verse, *My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.*

As I had now lost all my dear and valued friends, every place in the world was alike to me. I had for a great while entertained a desire to come to England, I imagined that all the inhabitants of this island were holy; because all those that had visited my master from thence were good, (Mr. Whitfield was his particular friend) and the authors of the books

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books that had been given me were all English. But above all the places in the world, I wished to see Kidderminster, for I could not but think that on the spot where Mr. Baxter had lived and preached, the people must be all righteous.

The situation of my affairs required that I should remain a little longer in New-York as I was something in debt, and embarrassed in my circumstances. About this time a young gentleman that was a particular acquaintance of one of my young master's, pretended to be a friend to me and promised to pay my debts, which was three pounds; and he assured me he would never expect the money again. But in less than a month he came and demanded it; and when I assured him I had nothing to pay, he threatened to sell me.—Though I knew he had no right to do that, yet as I had no friend in the world to go to, it alarmed me greatly. At length he proposed my going a privateering, that I might by these means be enabled to pay him, to which I agreed—I went in character of a cook. Near St. Domingo, we came up to five French ships, merchant-men. We had a very smart engagement, that continued from eight in the morning, till three in the afternoon; when victory was declared on our side. Soon after this, we were met by three English ships which joined us, and that encouraged us to attack a fleet of 39 ships. We boarded the three first and then followed the others, and had the same success with twelve; but the rest escaped us. There was a great deal of blood shed, and I was near death several times, but the Lord preserved me.

I met with many enemies, and much persecution among the sailors; one of them was very unkind to me, and studied ways to vex and tease me. I cannot help mentioning one circumstance that hurt me more than all the rest, which was that he snatched a book out of my hand that I was very fond of, and used frequently to amuse myself with, and threw it into the sea. But what is remarkable, he was the first man killed in our engagement. I do not pretend to say that this happened

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Happened because he was not my friend ; but I thought it was a very awful providence to see how the enemies of the Lord are cut off.

Our captain was a cruel hard-hearted man.—I was excessively sorry for the prisoners we took in general ; but the pitiable case of one young gentleman grieved me to the heart. He appeared very amiable, and was strikingly handsome. Our captain took four thousand pounds from him ; but that did not satisfy him, as he imagined he was possessed of more, and had somewhere concealed it, so that the captain threatened him with death, at which he appeared in the deepest distress, and took the buckles out of his shoes, and untied his hair, which was very fine and long ; and in which several valuable rings were fastened. He came into the cabin to me, and in the most obliging terms imaginable asked for something to eat and drink ; which when I gave him he was so thankful and pretty in his manner, that my heart bled for him ; and I heartily wished that I could have spoken in any language in which the ship's crew could not have understood me ; that I might have let him know his danger ; for I heard the captain say he was resolved upon his death ; and he put his barbarous design in execution, for he took him on shore with one of the sailors, and there they shot him.

This circumstance affected me exceedingly, and I could not put him out of my mind a long while.—When we returned to New-York the captain divided the prize-money among us that we had taken. When I was called up to receive my part I waited upon the gentleman who paid my debt and was the occasion of my going abroad, to know if he would go with me to receive my money, or if I should bring him what I owed.—He chose to go with me ; and when the captain laid my money on the table ('twas an hundred and thirty five pounds) I desired the gentleman to take what I was indebted to him ; and he swept it all into his handkerchief, and would never be prevailed on to return a farthing of the money,

ney, nor any thing at all besides.—And he likewise secured a hogshead of sugar which was my property from the same ship. The captain was very angry with him for this piece of cruelty to me, as was every other person that heard it. But I have reason to believe (as he was one of the principal merchants in the city) that he transacted business for him, and on that account did not choose to quarrel with him.

At this time a very worthy gentleman, a wine merchant his name was Dunscombe, took me under his protection, and would have recovered my money for me if I had chose it; but I told him to let it alone; that I had rather be quiet; I believed that it would not prosper with him, and so it happened, for by a series of losses and misfortunes he became poor, and was soon after drowned on a party of pleasure,—The vessel was driven out to sea, and struck against a rock, by which means every soul perished.

I was very much distressed when I heard it, and felt greatly for his family who were reduced to very low circumstances. I never knew how to set a proper value on money; if I had but a little meat and drink to supply the present necessities of life, I never wished for more; and when I had any I gave it if ever I saw an object in distress. If it was not for my dear wife and children I should pay as little regard to money now as I did at that time.

(*To be Continued.*)

A remarkable Account of a MURDER, for which an innocent Man was nearly condemned upon circumstances.

IN the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a person was arraigned before Sir James Dyer, lord chief justice of the court of common pleas, upon an indictment for the murder of a man, who dwelt in the same parish with

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the prisoner. The first witness deposed, That on a certain day mentioned by the witness, in the morning as he was going through a close, which he particularly described, at some distance from the path, he saw a person lying, seeming to be either dead or drunk : that he went, and found him actually dead, two wounds appearing in his breast, and his shirt and cloaths much stained with blood : that the wounds appeared to have been given by the puncture of a fork or some such instrument ; and looking about he discovered a fork, lying near the corpse, which he took up, and observed it to be marked with the initial letters of the prisoner's name. The witness at the same time produced the fork in court, which the prisoner owned to be his.

A second witness deposed, That on the morning of the day on which the deceased was killed, he had risen early with an intention to go to a neighbouring market town ; and as he was standing in his house, the door being open, he saw the prisoner go by, dressed in a suit of cloaths, the colour and fashion of which he described ; that he (the witness) was prevented from going to market, and afterwards the first witness brought notice to the town of the death and wounds of the deceased, and of the prisoner's fork being found near the corpse ; that upon this report the prisoner was apprehended, and carried before a justice of the peace, who was then present in court ; that he (the witness) followed the prisoner to the justice's house, and attended his examination, during which he observed the change of raiment which the prisoner had made since the time he had first seen him in the morning : that at the time of the examination, the prisoner was dressed in the same cloaths which he had on at the trial ; and that on the witness's charging him with having changed his cloaths, he gave several evasive answers, and would have denied it : that upon his mentioning this circumstance of the change

change of dress, the justice granted a warrant to search the prisoner's house for the cloaths described by the witness, as having been put off since the morning : that after a diligent search, the very cloaths which the witness had described were discovered all bloody, concealed in a straw bed. He then produced the bloody cloaths in court, which the prisoner owned to be his, and to have been thrust into the straw bed, with an intention to conceal them on account of their being bloody.

The prisoner, being called upon to make his defence, gave the following narrative to the court, as containing all he knew concerning the manner and circumstances of the death of the deceased, viz. "That he rented a close in the same parish with the deceased, and that the deceased rented another close adjoining to it : that the only way to his own close was through that of the deceased, and that on the day when the murder was committed, he rose early in the morning, to go to work in his close, with his fork in his hand ; and passing through the ground of the deceased, he observed a man at some distance from the path, lying as if dead, or drunk ; that he went to see what condition the person was in, and found him in the last extremity, with two wounds in his breast, from which a great deal of blood had issued ; that in order to relieve him, he raised him up, and with great difficulty set him in his lap : that he told the deceased he was greatly concerned at his unhappy fate, and the more so, as there seemed too much reason to apprehend he had been murdered ; that he entreated the deceased to discover, if possible, the occasion of his misfortune, assuring him he would use his utmost endeavours to bring the murderer to justice : that the deceased seemed to be sensible of what he said, and, in the midst of his agonies, attempted to speak, but being seized with a rattling

in his throat, after a hard struggle, he gave a dreadful groan, and vomiting a great deal of blood, some of which fell on his (the prisoner's) cloaths, he expired in his arms; that the shock he felt on account of this accident was not to be expressed; and the rather, as it was well known there had been a difference between the deceased and himself, on which account he might possibly be suspected of the murder; that he therefore thought it adviseable to leave the deceased in the condition he was, and to take no farther notice of the matter; that in the confusion he was in, when he left the place, he took away the fork of the deceased, and left his own in the room of it, by the side of the corpse; that, being obliged to go to work, he thought it best to shift his cloaths; and that they might not be seen, he confessed he had hid them in the place where they were found: that it was true, he had denied before the justice to have changed his cloaths, being conscious that this was an ugly circumstance that might be urged against him; and being unwilling to be brought into trouble, if he could help it, and concluded his story with a solemn declaration that he had related nothing but the truth, without adding or diminishing one tittle, as he should answer it to Almighty God." Being called upon to produce his witnesses, the prisoner answered, with a steady composed countenance and solemn tone of voice, that he had no witness but God and his own conscience.

The judge then proceeded to deliver his charge to the jury, in which he pathetically enlarged on the heinousness of the crime, and laid great stress on the force of the evidence, which, although circumstantial only, he declared he thought to be irresistible, and little inferior to the most positive proof; that the prisoner had indeed contrived a very plausible story; but if such allegations were admitted in a case of this kind, no murderer would ever be brought to justice, such blo-

dy deeds being generally perpetrated in the dark, and with the greatest secrecy : that the present case was exempted, in his opinion, from all possibility of doubt, and that they ought not to hesitate one moment about finding the prisoner guilty.

The foreman begged his lordship, as it was a case of life and death, that the jury might be at liberty to withdraw, and upon this motion, an officer was sworn to keep the jury. This trial came on in the morning, and the judge having sat till nine at night, expecting the return of the jury, at last sent an officer to enquire if they were agreed in their verdict, for, his lordship would wait no longer for them. Some of them answered that eleven of them had been of one mind from the first ; but their foreman was of a different opinion, and was unalterably fixed in it.

The messenger no sooner returned, but the complaining members alarmed at the thought of being confined all night, and despairing of bringing their dissenting brother over to their way of thinking, agreed to accede to his opinion, and having acquainted him with their resolution, they sent an officer to detain his lordship a few minutes, and then went into the court, and by their foreman brought in the prisoner not guilty. His lordship could not help expressing the greatest surprize and indignation at this unexpected verdict, and, after giving the jury a severe admonition, he refused to record their verdict, and sent them back again, with directions that they should be locked up all night without fire or candle. The whole blame was publicly laid on the foreman by the rest of the members, and they spent the night in loading him with reflections, and bewailing their fate in being associated with so hardened a wretch ; but he remained quite inflexible ; constantly declaring he would suffer death, rather than change his opinion.

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As soon as his lordship came into court the next morning, he sent again to the jury, on which all the eleven members joined in requesting their foreman to go again into court, assuring him they would adhere to their former verdict, whatever was the consequence; and on being reproached for their former inconstancy, they promised never to desert or recriminate their foreman any more. Upon this, they proceeded into court, and again brought in the prisoner not guilty. The judge, unable to conceal his rage at a verdict which appeared to him in the most iniquitous light, reproached them with the severest censures, and dismissed them with this cutting reflection, "That the blood of the deceased lay at their door.

The prisoner on his part fell on his knees, and with uplifted eyes and hands, thanked God for his deliverance, and addressing himself to the judge, cried out; "You see, my lord, that God and a good conscience are the best of witnesses. These circumstances made a deep impression on the mind of the judge, and when he had retired from the court, he entered into discourse with the high sheriff, upon what had passed, and particularly examined him, as to his knowledge of the leader of the jury.

This gentleman said, he had been acquainted with him many years: that he had an estate of his own of above fifty pounds per annum, and that he rented a very considerable farm besides; that he never knew him charged with an ill action, and that he was universally esteemed in his neighbourhood. For further information his lordship likewise sent for the minister of the parish, who gave the same favourable account of his parishioner, with this addition, that he was a churchman, and a devout communicant.

These accounts rather increased his lordship's perplexity; therefore he desired a conference in private with

with the only person who could give him satisfaction : and desired the sheriff to procure the desired interview. The juryman being introduced to the judge, his lordship retired into a closet, where he opened his reasons for desiring that visit, and conjured his visitor frankly to discover his reasons for acquitting the prisoner. The juryman answered, that he had sufficient reasons to justify his conduct, and that he was neither afraid nor ashamed to reveal them ; but as he had hitherto kept them to himself, and was under no compulsion to disclose them, he expected his lordship would engage, upon his honor, to keep what he was about to unfold, as secret as he himself had done ; which his lordship having promised to do, the juryman then proceeded to give him the following account. " The deceased being titheman of the parish where he (the juryman) lived, he had, the morning of his decease, been in his (the juryman's) grounds amongst his corn, and had done him great injustice by taking more than his due, and acting otherwise in a most arbitrary manner : when he complained of his treatment, he was not only abused with scurrilous language, but the deceased likewise struck at him several times with his fork, and actually wounded him in two places, the scars of which wounds he then shewed his lordship. The deceased seemed bent on mischief, and he (the juryman) having no weapon to defend himself, had no way to preserve his own life, but by closing in with the deceased, and wrenching the fork out of his hands ; which having effected, the deceased attempted to recover the fork, and, in the scuffle received the two wounds, which had occasioned his death.

He said he was inexpressibly concerned at the accident, and especially when the prisoner was taken up on suspicion of the murder ; that the former affizies being but just over, he was unwilling to surrender himself, and to confess the matter, because his farm and affairs

affairs would have been ruined by his lying in a gaol so long : that he was sure to have been acquitted on his trial, for he had consulted the ablest lawyers upon the case; who had all agreed, that as the deceased had been the aggressor, he would only be found guilty of manslaughter : it was true he had suffered greatly in his own mind on the prisoner's account ; but being well assured that imprisonment would be of less ill consequence to the prisoner than to himself, he had suffered the law to take its course. And, in order to render the prisoner's confinement as easy as possible, he had given him every kind of assistance, and had wholly supported his family ever since ; but to get him cleared of the charge laid against him, he could think of no other expedient than procuring himself to be summoned on the jury, and set at the head of them, which, with great labour and expence, he had accomplished, having all along determined in his own breast, rather to die himself, than to suffer any harm to be done to the prisoner.

His lordship expressed great satisfaction at this account, and after thanking him for it, and making this further stipulation, that in case his lordship should happen to survive him, he might then be at liberty to relate this story, that it might be delivered down to posterity, the conference broke up. The jurymen lived fifteen years afterwards ; the judge enquired after him every year, and happening to survive him, delivered the above relation.

FAMILY DISAGREEMENTS.

AFTER all our complaints of the uncertainty of human affairs, it is undoubtedly true, that more misery is produced among us by the irregularities of the tempers, than by real misfortunes. And it is a circumstance particularly unhappy, that these irregularities of the tempers are most apt

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to display themselves at our fire-sides where every thing ought to be tranquil and serene. The perversion of the best things converts them to the worst. Home is certainly, well adapted for repose and solid enjoyment, when accompanied with the genuine influence of religion. Among parents, and brothers and sisters, and all the tender charities of private life, the gentler affections, which are always attended with feelings purely and permanently pleasurable, find an ample scope for proper exertion. The experienced have often declared, after wearying themselves in pursuing phantoms, that they have found substantial pleasure in the domestic circle. Hither they have returned from the busy, dissipated world, as the bird, after fluttering into the air, descends into her nest, to partake of and increase its genial warmth, with her young ones.

Such and so sweet are the comforts of home, when not perverted by the folly and weakness of man. Indifference, and a carelessness on the subject of pleasing those whom, of all below, it is our best interest to please, often renders it a scene of dulness and insipidity. Happy if the evil extended no farther, but the transition from the negative state of not being pleased, to positive ill-humour, is but too easy. Fretfulness and peevishness arise, as nettles vegetate, spontaneously, where no salutary plants are cultivated. One unkind expression infallibly generates many others. Trifles light as air, are able to kindle the blaze of contention. By frequent conflicts and unreserved familiarity, all that mutual respect, which is necessary to preserve love, even in the most intimate connections, is entirely lost: and the faint affection which remains, is too feeble to be felt amid the furious operation of hateful passions. Farewell peace and tranquility, and cheerful converse, and all the boasted comforts of the family circle. The nest which should preserve a perpetual warmth by the constancy of parental and conjugal affection, is rendered cold and joyless. In the place of the soft down which should cover it, are substituted thorns and briars. The waters of strife, (to make use of the beautiful allusion of the sacred oracles,

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cles,) rush in with impetuous violence, and ruffle and discolour that stream, which, in its undisturbed current, devolves its waters all smooth and limpid.

But it is not necessary to expatiate on the misery of family dissention. I mean more particularly to suggest, that family dissention, besides all its own immediate evils, is the fruitful parent of moral misconduct.

When the several parts which compose a family, find themselves uneasy in that home which is naturally the seat of mutual enjoyment, they are tempted from the straight road of Christian prudence, to pursue happiness through a devious wild of passion and imagination. The son, arrived at years of maturity, who is treated harshly at home, will seldom spend his evenings at the domestic fire-side. If he lives in the city, he will fly for refuge to company, and in the end it is very probable he will form some unhappy connection, which cannot be continued without a plentiful supply of money. Money, it is probable, cannot be procured honestly but from the parent; but money must at all events be procured. What then remains, but to pursue those methods which unprincipled ingenuity has invented, and which sooner or later lead to their proper punishments, pain, shame, and death!

But though the consequences are not always such as the operation of human laws produces, yet they are always terrible, and destructive of happiness, virtue, and every latent spark of piety to God. Misery is, indeed, the necessary result of all deviation from rectitude; but early licentiousness and profligacy of all kinds, are peculiarly fruitful of wretchedness, as they sow the seeds of misery in the spring of life, when all that is sown strikes deep root, and buds and blossoms, and brings forth fruit in profuse abundance.

In the disagreements between children and parents, it is certain, that the children are usually, most culpable. Their violent passions and defective experience, render them disobedient

dient and undutiful. Their love of pleasure operates so violently, as often to destroy the force of filial affection, as well as all fear of the Most High, a parent is stung to the heart by the ingratitude of a child. He checks his precipitancy, and perhaps, with too little command of temper. Asperity produces asperity. but the child was the aggressor, and therefore deserves a great part of the misery which ensues. It is, however certain, that the parent is often imprudent, as well as the child undutiful. The parent should endeavor to render home agreeable, by gentle treatment: for man at every age wishes to be pleased, but more particularly at the juvenile age. He should indeed maintain his authority; but it should be like the mild dominion of a limited monarch, and not the iron rule of an austere tyrant. If home be rendered pleasing, it will not be long deserted. The prodigal will soon return, when his father's house is always ready to receive him with joy. Parents should never forget that word of God, delivered by St. Paul, "Ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath. Eph. vi. 4.

What is said of the consequences of domestic disunion to sons is equally to be applied to daughters. Indeed, as the misconduct of daughters is more fatal to family peace, though not more heinous in a moral view, particular care should be taken to render them attached to the comforts of the family circle. When their home is disagreeable, they will be ready to make any exchange: and will often lose their characters, virtue, and happiness, in the pursuit of it. Indeed the female character and peace are so easily injured, that no solicitude can be too great in their preservation. But prudence is necessary in every good cause, as well as zeal: and it is found by experience, that the gentlest method of government, if it be limited and directed by good sense, is the best. It ought, indeed, to be steady, but not rigid.

To what wickedness, as well as wretchedness, matrimonial disagreements lead, every day's history will clearly inform us.

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When the husband is driven from his home by a termagant, he will if not rooted in piety, seek that enjoyment, which is denied him at home, in the haunts of vice, and in the riots of intemperance. Nor can female corruption be wondered at, though it must be greatly pitied and regretted, when in the heart of a husband, which love and friendship should warm, hatred is found to rankle. Conjugal infelicity not only renders life most uncomfortable, but leads to that desperate dissoluteness and carelessness in manners, which terminates in the ruin of health, peace, and fortune, and body and soul.

But it avails little, to point out evils, without recommending a remedy. One of the first rules which suggests itself, is, that families should endeavor, by often and seriously reflecting on the subject, to convince themselves, that not only the enjoyment, but the piety and virtue of every individual, greatly depend, under the grace and blessing of God, on a cordial Union. when they are convinced of this, they will endeavour to promote it: and it most providentially happens, that the very wish and attempt of every individual must infallibly secure success.

Another most excellent rule is, to avoid a gross familiarity, even where the connection is most intimate. The human heart is so constituted as to love respect. It would, indeed, be unnatural in very intimate friends, to behave to each other with stiffness: but there is a difference and a delicacy of manner, that tend to preserve that degree of esteem, which is necessary to support affection, and which is lost in contempt, when it deviates into excessive familiarity. An habitual politeness or (to speak more according to the Oracles of God) courtesy of manners, will prevent even indifference from degenerating into hatred. It will refine, exalt, and perpetuate affection.

But the best and most efficacious rule is, that we should not think our religious and moral duties are only to be practised in public, and in the sight of those from whose applause we

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expect the gratification of our vanity, ambition, or avarice; but that we should be equally attentive to our behaviour among those who can only pay us by reciprocal love. We must set God always before our eyes, and shew the sincerity of our principles and professions, by acting consistently with them, not only in the legislature, in the field, in the pulpit, at the bar, or in any other public assembly, or in the counting-house, the office, or the shop, but also at the FIRE-SIDE.

An Account of the restoration of a Gentleman from drowning.

AT Black Pool, on the 7th September 1786 as *W. Tidd, Esq.* was bathing (the weather being tempestous, and the tide ebbing) he was taken off his feet, and by the violence of the waves involuntarily carried out to sea, to the distance of a mile. Some gentlemen on the beach saw him, and declared the impossibility of his returning alive; and being exhausted he called out, but too late for any help to be given to him. He went down, and was carried out by the tide two miles or more to sea. A purse of 30 guineas was collected, and offered to the fishermen to recover the body, but was refused on account of the danger; when *Messrs. Horton, Fenton, and Silvester*, launched a boat, and amidst nameless dangers and difficulties, brought the body to shore in about 40 minutes after he ceased to call for assistance.

The body when brought on shore, was to appearance dead, as there seemed to be an entire extinction of life and vital heat; (*for those gentlemen who had observed him from the first, were confident that he had been under water forty minutes.*) His eyes were fixed, and greatly inflamed, and the pupils much dilated. Warm blankets were prepared, in which he was carried to his bed, made very warm. From the boat to the bed, there was certainly the space of ten minutes; so that *nearly an hour elapsed before the re-animating process was commenced;*

menced ; I insisted on the assistants only staying in the room. The apparent corpse was dried well with warm flannels ; his head fomented with hot brandy, and bottles of hot water applied to the extremities ; with the application of volatiles to the nose, and temples. In about *forty minutes* a grumbling noise was heard in the abdomen, and the pulse could be felt, though extremely languid, and warmth seemed gradually to diffuse itself over the thorax, but the arms and legs continued of a dead cold. In about an hour and an half I endeavoured to get down warm broth by tea spoonfuls ; even at this time there was not the least power of diglutition, and the attempt gave him great uneasiness. His extremities continued cold and motionless ; he spoke incoherently. Mr. *Silvester* intreated him to take a cup of broth ; which he did not retain more than a minute, and from the instant of his vomiting, he became perfectly sensible, but had not the least recollection of having answered before any questions. His hands and arms became warm, but it was some time before his legs and feet were restored to their natural heat. In two hours from the time of his being put to bed, and *two hours and fifty minutes* from the time of his drowning, we had the high satisfaction of having this valuable gentleman restored to the world.

Remarkable instance of filial affection in a she BEAR.

WHILE the *Cracass* lay locked in the ice, early one morning the man at the mast-head gave notice, that three Bears were making their way very fast over the frozen ocean, and were directing their course towards the ship. They had no doubt, been invited by the scent of some blubber of a sea-horse the crew had killed a few days before, which had been set on fire, and was burning on the ice at the time of their approach. They proved to be a she-bear and her two cubs ; but the cubs were nearly as large as the dam. They ran eagerly to the fire, and drew out from the flames part of

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the flesh of the sea-horse that remained unconsumed, and ate it voraciously. The crew from the ship threw great lumps of the flesh of the sea-horse, which they had still left, upon the ice—which the old Bear fetched away singly, laid every lump before her cubs as she brought it, and dividing it, gave each a share, reserving but a small portion to herself. As she was fetching away the last piece, they levelled their muskets at the cubs, and shot them both dead; and, in her retreat, they wounded the dam, but not mortally.

It would have drawn tears of pity from any but unfeeling minds, to have marked the affectionate concern expressed by this poor beast in the dying moments of her expiring young. Though she was sorely wounded, and could but just crawl to the place where they lay, she carried the lump of flesh she had fetched away, as she had done the others before; tore it in pieces, and laid it down before them; and when she saw that they refused to eat, she laid her paws first upon one, and then upon the other, and endeavored to raise them up: all this while, it was piteous to hear her moan. When she found she could not move them, she went off, and being at some distance, looked back and moaned: this not availing to entice them away, she returned, and smelling round them, began to lick their wounds. She went off a second time, as before; and having crawled a few paces, looked again behind her, and for some time stood moaning. But still her cubs not rising to follow her, she returned to them again, and with signs of inexpressible fondness went round one, and round the other, pawing them and mourning. Finding at last that they were cold and lifeless, she raised her head toward the ship, and growled a curse upon the murderers, which they returned with a volley of musket-balls. She fell between her cubs, and died licking their wounds.

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Account of a FIRE DAMP, in a Tin-Mine in CORNWALL.

[By the Superintendant of the Works.]

THE Proprietor of this Mine had engaged my services as superintendant of his works, and in the discharging of that office, I had occasion often to go down into the depths of the place. In one of my descents, when on a level with the bottom, but at some distance from the place where the men were at work, I saw in a neglected corner of the mine, where the ore had been once dug, a small globule of white vapour, of the bigness of a wall-nut, which moved slowly about near the surface. I knew this was the beginning of a Damp, and ordering the person who attended me, to bring a candle lighted, I determined to nip the mischief in the bud, and accordingly applying the flame to it, it immediately took fire, and burst with a considerable explosion. It filled the whole cavity with flame, instead of air, but ended without doing any farther mischief.

A few days after, in a second descent, passing by the same place, I saw just such another globe of Damp formed : it looked like a small white cloud, playing about in a clear sky. As I found little mischief from the former, I determined to watch the progress of this; and accordingly ordered the men not to fire this, but to let it take its own course. I daily after this went down into the mine, and still saw it floating about in the same place, and daily enlarging in size, till on the fourth day it was the bigness of a Tennis-ball, and in a fortnight after this, which was as long as I dared venture its growth, it was as big as a man's head. In this condition it continued floating about two days, and made a very remarkable appearance.

It was still of a globular form, and was much whiter than at first ; and what was very remarkable, it now grew

grew larger, arose up higher into the air, and stood about breast high at last ; but as it occupied only a corner out of the common road of the mine, it did not incommod the workmen, nor did they ever come near it in passing to and fro, from the place of labour.

Afraid of the consequence of suffering this to grow any bigger, I prepared for the setting fire to it, by ordering all the tinners to retreat to the place where they worked ; and so hanging a candle from a cord in the ceiling, that when let go, it must be carried perpendicularly into the vapour. The candle was then lighted, and when it burnt well, and we were all retired to the length of the cord of communication, which was twenty-eight yards, I pulled the cord ; the rope immediately got loose, and the candle swang into its destined place, and gave fire to the Damp.

The noise of the explosion was not less than that of many cannon fired at once. We were all at that distance struck down by it : the whole air over our heads seemed flame, and what alarmed us infinitely more was that we thought we were buried alive ; for the explosion happening near the shaft, or passage down into the mine ; we heard a noise of stones falling down this place, and saw some very large ones. We took it for granted the shaft was choaked up, and we lost for ever ; but Providence ordered better for us ; for, on examining the place, we found the explosion had only forced away some large masses of rock, which fell clear down, and had not stuck in their passage. This was an escape so narrow, that I resolved never to go down into a mine again ; and happy it was for me that I did so, for this explosion, terrible as it was, was nothing to what followed soon after, and of eight persons which were at that time in the mine, I only am now alive to tell it.

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The mine in which this happened, was an old work, and communicated in different places with two others, which had been long before worked, and their passages filled up again. The breaking into these had often given the miners trouble, offending them with ill smells, and sometimes striking them down as dead. In all probability some of these unhappy persons, at the time of their fate, struck his pick into some of these deserted caverns, which I suppose to have been full of this Damp, and which taking fire at their candles, destroyed them all.

What we know of it is this ; as myself and family sat at breakfast, in a parlour which looked upon the shaft of the mine ; the opening of which was covered with a frame of solid wood-work, supporting wheels and pulleys, for the drawing up the ore, and letting down and taking up the workmen ; we heard the noise of an explosion loud and terrible. At the same instant our eyes were struck with a dreadful view of a vast column of fire bursting up out of the shaft, which was the colour of burning salt petre, and arose in a compact body to the height of forty yards.

The whole was over in less time than I have been writing the last ten syllables. We had no hope of the escape of the miners ; and when we came to the shaft, we found it filled up with broken rock from its sides. The whole frame of wood-work, though very solid and heavy, was torn up and gone ; but we were soon acquainted with what became of it, by a melancholy account that it had fallen on a cottage at the bottom of the hill, which it had beat down to the ground, and killed the man of the house, and maimed all the rest of the family.

In about an hour after this, we were informed that the body of one of the miners was found tossed to a vast distance beyond this cottage. This unhappy creature had

had been probably just in the way of the shaft or opening, when the explosion happened, and so was tossed up into the air with the wood-work, and carried by the violence of the shock to this distance ; while the rest were suffocated below, and then buried in the ruins.

A SCENE of DISTRESS.

THE Minister of a country village was called upon to baptize an infant just born. The cottage was situated on a lonely common; and as it was in the midst of winter, and the flood was out, it was absolutely necessary to wade through the lower room to a ladder which served as stairs. The chamber was so low that you could not stand upright in it. There was one window which admitted air as freely as light, for the rags, which had been stuffed into the broken panes, were now taken out, to contribute to the covering of the infant. In a dark corner of the room stood a small bedstead, without furniture, and on it lay the dead mother, who had just expired in labour for want of assistance. The father was sitting on a little stool by the fire place, though there was no fire, and endeavouring to keep the infant warm in his bosom. Five of the seven children, half naked, were asking their father for a piece of bread, while a fine boy, about three years old, was standing by his mother at the bed side, and crying, as he was wont to do, "Take me, take me mammy." "Mammy is fast asleep," said one of the sisters, with two tears standing on her cheeks. "Mammy is fast asleep, Johnny go and play with the baby on daddy's knee." The father took him on his knee, and his grief, which had hitherto kept him dumb, and in a state of insensibility, burst out in a torrent of tears, and relieved his heart, which seemed to break. "Do not cry; pray do not cry," said the eldest boy, the nurse

is coming up stairs with a twopenny loaf in her hand, and mammy will wake presently, and I will carry her the largest piece." Upon this, an old woman crooked with age, and cloathed in tatters, came hobbling on her little stick into the room, and after a groan, calmly sat down, dressed the child in its rags, then divided the loaf as far as it would go; and informed the poor man that the church-wardens, with whom she had just been, would send some relief.... Relief indeed was sent, and a little contribution afterwards raised by the interposition of the Minister. If he had not seen the case, it would have passed as a common affair, and a thing of course.

Ministers and medical practitioners are often witnesses of scenes, even more wretched than this; where to poverty, cold, nakedness, and death, are added the languors of lingering and loathsome diseases, and the torments of excruciating pain. A feeling heart among the rich and the great, who are at the same time querulous without cause, would learn a lesson, in many a garret, more efficacious than all the lectures of the moral or divine philosopher.

ANECDOTE.

NO object can be more pleasing to a pious and virtuous mind, than to behold a well-directed benevolence, productive of a grateful and happy heart; while the smiling scenes of cultivation succeed the solitary wastes of savage nature. Mr. Wood, a merchant of Decca, coming from thence to Calcutta, where the Ganges flows through vast tracts of uncultivated and marshy grounds, which render the navigation peculiarly difficult and dangerous, happened to fall in with a poor native wood-cutter. In the course of conversation, the latter said that if he had but fifty rupees (half a Crown each

each) he could make a comfortable settlement. The fifty rupees Mr. Wood lent him, When this worthy man after staying some time at Culcutta, returned to Decca, he saw the pleasing effects of his bounty in an advanced settlement, on a small eminence newly cleared from standing trees. Unsolicited he lent the wood-cutter fifty rupees more. The next voyage, Mr. Wood was delighted to behold the rapid progress of the settlement, and was astonished to meet the wood-cutter offering to pay half the small but generous loan. Mr. Wood refused to receive it at that time, and lent him one hundred rupees more. About eighteen months after the commencement of the settlement, he had the inexpressible satisfaction of seeing his industrious wood-cutter at the head of five populous villages, and a spacious tract of fine land under cultivation, drained and cleared of swamps and woods. The wood-cutter now repaid the principal he had borrowed, and tendered the interest, while tears of gratitude and humble affection stole down his venerable, happy and expressive countenance. But how inexpressible the feelings of the benevolent merchant! Let those plunderers who return with the wealth of nations, sinking under their cruelty and oppression, while they wanton in all the luxuries of life,—let them still

In palaces lie straining their low thought

To form unreal wants:

To sensations like this, they must ever be strangers. An enjoyment so exquisite, so pure, so permanent, not all the riches of the East can purchase.

THOUGHTS CONCERNING SOULS DEPARTED.

IT was the opinion of the most Antient and learned Fathers, of the greatest Philosophers, and many excellent men among the moderns, that souls departed are embodied in ethereal vehicles. In such they suppose the souls of *Moses* and *Elias* conversed with our Lord. Angels are said to be ministering

nistring spirits: but may not reasonable human creatures be made so too; and (as they are *like unto angels*) may they not be as proper at least for the service of men? They have the same nature and affections. They feel our infirmities, and consider us more than abstract spirits do. For which reason our Saviour took not upon him the nature of *angels*, but of *men*. Souls departed have life, sense, and motion, capacity of being employed, and no doubt have inclination to it; and whither may they be more properly sent, than to those of their own nature, to whom they are allied and from whom they so lately came? It is supposed both by Jews and Christians, that the soul of the Messiah appeared to the Patriarchs, and was the Angel of the covenant. He appeared to St. Stephen, though then in glory. Of the apparitions of Angels recorded in Scripture, we have reason to think that some were human souls, called Angels from their office.

ANECDOCE OF A REMARKABLE DUEL.

THE fame of an English dog has been deservedly transmitted to posterity by a monument in basso relievo, which still remains on the chimney-piece of the grand hall at the castle of Montargis, in France: the sculpture represents a dog fighting with a champion, and was occasioned by the following circumstance.

Aubri de Mondidier, a gentleman of family and fortune, travelling alone through the forest of Bondi, was murdered, and buried under a tree. His dog an English blood-hound, would not quit his master's grave for several days, till at length, compelled by hunger, he went to the house of an intimate friend of the unfortunate Aubri's, at Paris, and by his melancholy howling, seemed desirous of expressing the loss they had both sustained. He repeated his cries, ran to the door, then looked back to see if any one followed him, returned to his master's friend, pulled him by the sleeve, and with dumb eloquence intreated him to go with him.

The

The singularity of all the actions of the dog ; his coming there without his master, whose faithful companion he always had been ; the sudden disappearance of his master ; and perhaps, that divine dispensation of justice and events, which will not permit the guilty to remain long undetected ; made the company resolve to follow the dog, who conducted them to the tree, where he renewed his howl, scratching the earth with his feet, to signify that that was the spot they should search. Accordingly on digging, the body of the unfortunate Aubri was found.

Some time after the dog accidentally met the assassin, who is styled the Chevalier Macaire ; when instantly seizing him by the throat, it was with great difficulty he was made to quit his prey,

Whenever he saw him after, the dog pursued and attacked him with equal fury. Such obstinate virulence in the animal, confined only to Macaire, appeared extraordinary to those persons who recollect the dog's fondness for his master, and at the same time several instances wherein Macaire had displayed his envy and hatred to Aubri de Mondidier.

Additional circumstances increased suspicion, which at length reached the royal ear. The King (Lewis VIII.) sent for the dog. He appeared extremely gentle, till perceiving Marcaire in the midst of twenty nobleman, he ran directly towards him, growled, and flew at him as usual.

In those times, when no positive proof of a crime could be procured, an order was issued for a combat between the accuser and accused. These were denominated the judgment of God, from a persuasion that heaven would sooner work a miracle, than suffer innocence to perish with infamy.

The king, struck with such a collection of circumstantial evidence against Macaire, determined to refer the decision to the

the chance of war, or in other words, he gave orders for a combat between the Chevalier and the dog. The lists were appointed in the aisle of Notre Dame, then an uninhabited, uninclosed place: Macaires weapon was a great cudgel.

The dog had an empty cask allowed for his retreat, to recover breath. The combatants being ready, the dog no sooner found himself at liberty, than he ran round his adversary, avoiding his blows, menacing him on every side, till his strength was exhausted; then springing forward, he gripe him by the throat, threw him on the ground, and forced him to confess his crime before the king and the whole court. In consequence of which the Chevalier, after a few days, was convicted upon his own acknowledgment, and beheaded on a scaffold in the aisle of Notre Dame.

POETICAL EFFUSIONS.

On RESIGNATION.

IS Resignation's Lesson hard?

I Examine, we shall find
That Duty gives up little more
Than Anguish of the mind;

Resign; and all the Load of Life
That Moment you remove
Its heavy Tax, ten thousand cares,
Devolve on 'One above.

Who bids us lay our Burthen down
On his almighty Hand,
Softens our Duty to relief,
To blessing a command.

Men let unmark'd, and unemploy'd,
Life's idle moments run;

And

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And doing nothing for themselves,
Imagine nothing done.

Fatal Mistake ! their fate goes on,
Their dread account proceeds,
And their not doing is set down
Amongst their darkest deeds.

Tho' man sits still, and takes his ease,
God is at work on man ;
No means, no moment unemploy'd,
To bless him if he can.

But man consents not, boldly bent
To fashion his own fate ;
Man, a mere bungler in the trade,
Repents his crime too late ;

Hence loud laments : Let me thy cause,
Indulgent Father ! plead ;
Of all the wretches we deplore,
Not one by thee was made :

What is thy whole creation fair ?
Of Love divine the child :
Love brought it forth : and from its birth,
Has o'er it fondly smil'd :

Now and thro' Period's distant far,
Long ere the World began,
Heaven is, and has in travail been,
Its birth the good of man ;

Man holds, in constant service bound,
The blustering winds and seas
Nor suns disdain to travail hard,
Their master man to please ;

To

To final good the worst events
 Thro' secret channels run :
 Finish for man their destin'd course,
 As 'twas for man begun.

One point (observ'd perhaps, by few)
 Has often smote, and smites
 My mind, as demonstration strong ;
 That Heaven in man delights :

What's known to man of things unseen,
 Of future worlds or fates ?
 So much, nor more than what to Man's
 Sublime affairs relates :

What's Revelation then ? a list,
 And inventory just,
 Of that poor insects goods, so late
 Call'd out of night, and dust :

What various motives to rejoice,
 To render joy sincere,
 Has this no weight ? our joy is felt
 Beyond this narrow sphere.

On a Blind Woman, who lost her Sight when a Child.

SCARCE had the Bell of sense began to toll,
 And dawning reason, open'd on her soul ;
 But black disease, for ever dim'd her sight,
 And wrap't her senses in perpetual night.
 In vain for her ; creation spreads her charms,
 In vain the Sun, the womb of nature warms ;
 In vain his dazzling lustre paints the ground,
 A gloomy darkness hovers all around ;
 In its dark dungeon dooms her mind to groan,
 And shuts the paths that lead to wisdom's throne,
 Then arise mild pity, 'rise her cause to plead,
 A case uncommon claims uncommon aid.

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On ENVY

SHE never smiles, but where the wretched weep ;
Nor lulls her malice with a moments sleep :
Restless in spite ! While watchful to destroy ;
She pines and sickens at another's joy.

On DETRACTION.

LET lying Fame her blasting trumpet blow ;
If I no evil nor occasion know,
'Tis but a blast to blow me on that shore,
Where scandal's breath shall sound her trump no more.

On the Departure of the Nightingale.

SWEET Poet of the woods a long adieu !
Farewell, soft minstrel of the early year !
Ah ! 'twill be long ere thou shalt sing anew,
And pour thy music on the night's dull ear.

Whether on Spring thy wand'ring flights await,,
Or whether silent in your groves you dwell ;
The pensive muse shall "own thee for her mate,"
And still protect the song she lov'd so well.

With cautious steps the love-lorn youth shall glide
Through the lone brake that shades thy mossy nest ;
And shepherd girls from eyes profane shall hide
The gentle bird, that sings of pity best.
For still thy song shall soft affections move,
And still be dear to sorrow and to love.